

# Conformal Clifford Algebras and Image Viewpoints Orbit

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Some viewpoints of a planar object.



- Construct **powerful** modelings of image **viewpoints** and **viewpoint changes**
- Use these modelings to **linearize** the viewpoint changes by encoding them through a **group of linear transformations**



- **Projective geometry** : not linear  $\implies$  Complication of the calculations and algorithms (see [1]).
- Consider particular viewpoint changes : dilations for instance (see [2]).
- Use a more powerful framework for modelings : **Conformal Clifford algebras**.



[1] R. Hartley and A. Zisserman. *Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision*. Cambridge University Press, ISBN : 0521540518, 2004.



[2] D-G. Lowe. Distinctive Image Features from Scale-Invariant Keypoints. *International Journal of Computer Vision*, 2, pages 91-110, 2004.



- ① Projective modelings : preliminary calculations
- ② Clifford algebras and conformal models of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  in the Minkowski space :
  - Definitions and examples
  - Horospheres
- ③ Conformal modelings : two approaches
  - A conformal image : mapping defined on a horosphere
  - A conformal viewpoint change : horospheres change
  - The set of all the viewpoint changes :
    - ① approach 1  $\implies$  group
    - ② approach 2  $\implies$  groupoid
  - Approach 1 *versus* approach 2

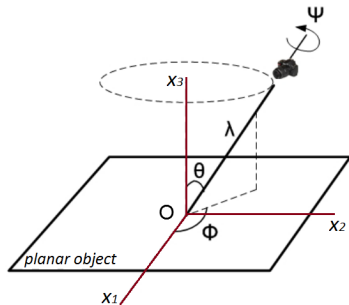


FIGURE: The extrinsic parameters ( $\theta, \phi, \psi, \lambda, t_1, t_2$ ) of the camera (where  $t_1 = t_2 = 0$ )

Frontal viewpoint  $\iff \theta = 0$



G. Yu and J-M. Morel. ASIFT : An Algorithm for Fully Affine Invariant Comparison Image Processing On Line, 2011, 1



A projective image is a mapping :

$$l_\theta : h_\theta(\mathbb{R}^2) \subset \mathbb{P}^2\mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}. \quad (1)$$

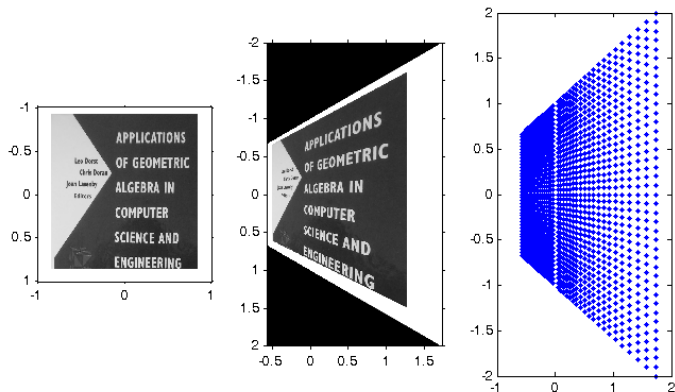
where  $h_\theta$  is a homography of the real projective plane  $\mathbb{P}^2\mathbb{R}$  called **perspective distortion** that satisfies :

$$h_\theta[\pi(x_1, x_2, 1)] = \pi[M_\theta \cdot (x_1, x_2, 1)], \quad (2)$$

and

$$M_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin\theta & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3)$$

$\theta \in [0, \pi/2[$  is the latitude angle of the camera and  $h_\theta(\mathbb{R}^2)$  is a perspective plane and  $\pi : \mathbb{R}^3 - \{0\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}_2\mathbb{R}$  is the canonical projection.



**FIGURE:** A frontal image of a planar object (left), a slanted view of the object for  $\theta = \pi/6$  (middle) and a representation of the spatial domain of the distorted image (right).





We denote by  $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$  the space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  equipped with the quadratic form  $Q$  of signature  $(p, q)$  with  $p + q = n$ .

The Clifford algebra (or geometric algebra)  $\mathbb{R}_{p,q}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$  is an associative algebra that contains the vectors of  $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$  and the scalars of  $\mathbb{R}$  (see [1]).

The Clifford multiplication that defines  $\mathbb{R}_{p,q}$  as a unitary ring is called **geometric product**.

If  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{p,q}$ , then  $\mathbb{R}_{p,q}$  is the algebra generated by the vectors  $e_i$ . It is of dimension  $2^n$  and admits the set

$$\{1, e_{i_1} \dots e_{i_k}, i_1 < \dots < i_k, k \in \{1, \dots, n\}\} \quad (4)$$

as basis.



D. Hestenes. *New Foundations for Classical Mechanics (Fundamental Theories of Physics)* Springer; 2nd edition, 1999.



Examples :

- $\mathbb{R}_{0,1}$  is isomorphic to the commutative field of complex numbers
- $\mathbb{R}_{0,2}$  is isomorphic to the non-commutative field of quaternions

### The Spin group

It is the set of the following elements of  $\mathbb{R}_{p,q}$

$$\text{Spin}(p, q) := \{ \sigma = \prod_{i=1}^{2k} u_i, |Q(u_i)| = 1 \} \quad (5)$$



Consider the isotropic basis  $\{e_{\infty,\alpha}, e_{0,\alpha}\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{1,1}$  (for  $\alpha > 0$ ) :

$$e_{\infty,\alpha} = (\alpha, \alpha) \quad \text{and} \quad e_{0,\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \left( -\frac{1}{\alpha}, \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) \quad (6)$$

satisfying  $e_{\infty,\alpha} \cdot e_{0,\alpha} = -1$ .

The space  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$  is decomposed into a conformal split

$$\mathbb{R}^{3,1} = \mathbb{R}^2 \oplus \mathbb{R}^{1,1} \quad (7)$$

where  $\{e_1, e_2\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Thus,  $\{e_1, e_2, e_{\infty,\alpha}, e_{0,\alpha}\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$ .



H. Li, D. Hestenes and A. Rockwood. Sommer, G. (Ed.). Generalized homogeneous coordinates for computational geometry. Geometric computing with Clifford algebra, Springer-Verlag, 2001, 27-59.

▶ to approach2



The horosphere  $H_\alpha$  associated with the basis  $\{e_{\infty,\alpha}, e_{0,\alpha}\}$  is the set of normalized isotropic vectors of  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$  :

$$H_\alpha = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{3,1}; X^2 = 0 \text{ and } X \cdot e_{\infty,\alpha} = -1\}. \quad (8)$$

More precisely,  $H_\alpha = \varphi_\alpha(\mathbb{R}^2)$  where  $\varphi_\alpha$  is a global parametrization

$$\varphi_\alpha : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow H_\alpha \quad (9)$$

that sends  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  to

$$X_\alpha = \varphi_\alpha(x) = x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 e_{\infty,\alpha} + e_{0,\alpha}. \quad (10)$$



▶ to projective

### Proposition

An image is the data of a one parameter horosphere  $H_{\alpha_\theta}$  encoding the latitude angle  $\theta$  and a mapping  $\bar{l}_{\alpha_\theta}$  defined on  $H_{\alpha_\theta}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{l}_{\alpha_\theta} : \{H_{\alpha_\theta}, \varphi_{\alpha_\theta}\} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} & (11) \\ X_{\alpha_\theta} = \varphi_{\alpha_\theta}(x) &\longmapsto l_\theta \circ h_\theta \circ \varphi_{\alpha_\theta}^{-1}(X_{\alpha_\theta}) \\ &= l_\theta \circ h_\theta(x), \end{aligned}$$

where  $l_\theta$  is the corresponding projective image.



# Conformal modelings : approach 1

## Conformal viewpoint change

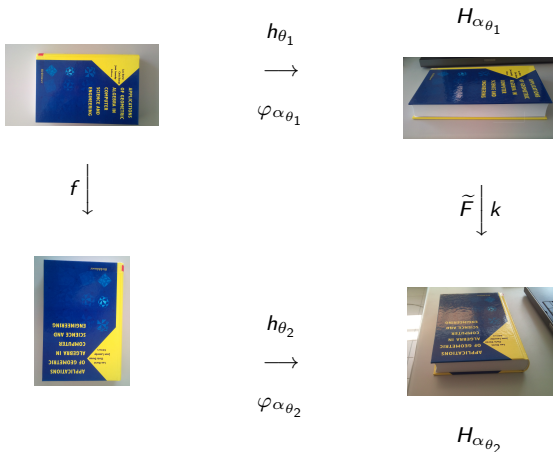


FIGURE: First line : an image  $I_{\theta_1}$  (right) and its associated frontal image  $I_0^1$  (left).

Second line : an image  $I_{\theta_2}$  (right) and its associated frontal image  $I_0^2$  (left).



The group that models the viewpoint changes is the sub-group  $C_0(3, 1)$  of the group  $C(3, 1)$  of the linear conformal transformations of  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$  satisfying :

$$\begin{aligned} & \{F_{\{H_{\alpha_\theta}, \varphi_{\alpha_\theta}\}}, F \in C_0(3, 1) \text{ et } \alpha_\theta > 0\} \\ & = \{\tilde{F} = \varphi_{\alpha_{\theta_2}} \circ f \circ \varphi_{\alpha_{\theta_1}}^{-1}, f \text{ similitude, } \alpha_{\theta_i} > 0, \} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Technical calculations gives :

$$F \in C_0(3, 1) \iff F = F_{\bar{\alpha}} \circ F_\sigma \quad (13)$$

where  $\bar{\alpha} > 0$  and  $\sigma$  is a spinor encoding the similarities and

$$F_{\bar{\alpha}} \circ \varphi_{\alpha_\theta} = \varphi_{\bar{\alpha}\alpha_\theta} \quad (14)$$

$$F_\sigma \circ \varphi_{\alpha_\theta} = \varphi_{\alpha_\theta} \circ f_{\alpha_\theta} \quad (15)$$



**Aim** : Introduce **more natural modelings** of the latitude and the zoom of the camera.

Let  $e_\infty = (1, 1)$  and  $e_0 = 1/2(-1, 1)$  be the two isotropic vectors of the standard conformal model of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  ( $\alpha = 1$ ).

▶ to isotropic vectors

### Main idea

The effect of the latitude  $\theta \iff$  applying on  $e_\infty$  a **rotation**  $\rho_\theta$  of angle  $\theta$ .

The effect of the zoom  $\lambda > 0 \iff$  applying on  $e_\infty$  a **dilatation** of ratio  $\lambda$ .





We propose then to introduce the vectors  $\lambda e_{\infty, \theta}$  and  $\lambda^{-1} e_{0, \theta}$  where :

$$e_{\infty, \theta} = \rho_{\theta}(e_{\infty}) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta - \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta + \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad e_{0, \theta} = \rho_{\theta}(e_0) = -\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta + \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta - \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad (16)$$

isotropic for the new metric

$$G_{\theta} = \rho_{\theta} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \rho_{\theta}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2\theta & \sin 2\theta \\ \sin 2\theta & -\cos 2\theta \end{pmatrix} \quad (17)$$

and satisfying  $e_{\infty, \theta} \cdot e_{0, \theta} = -1$ .



For every  $\theta$ , the space is then  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^4 = (\mathbb{R}^4, Q_\theta)$  where

$$Q_\theta = id \oplus G_\theta \quad (18)$$

### Definition

A generalized conformal representation of the Euclidean plane is the data of a two-parameter horosphere :

$$H(\lambda, \theta) = \{X \in \mathbb{R}_\theta^4, X^2 = 0, X \cdot \lambda e_{\infty, \theta} = -1\} \quad (19)$$

associated with the embedding  $\varphi_{\lambda, \theta}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  into  $\mathbb{R}_\theta^4$  :

$$\varphi_{\lambda, \theta}(x) = x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 \lambda e_{\infty, \theta} + \lambda^{-1} e_{0, \theta} \quad (20)$$



### Proposition

An image is the data of a generalized conformal model  $(H(\lambda, \theta), \varphi_{\lambda, \theta})$  and a mapping :

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{I}_{\lambda, \theta} : (H(\lambda, \theta), \varphi_{\lambda, \theta}) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} && (21) \\ X_{\lambda, \theta} = \varphi_{\lambda, \theta}(x) &\longmapsto I_{\lambda, \theta} \circ h_{\theta} \circ D_{\lambda-1} \circ \varphi_{\lambda, \theta}^{-1}(X_{\lambda, \theta}) \\ &= I_{\lambda, \theta} \circ h_{\theta} \circ D_{\lambda-1}(x), \end{aligned}$$

where  $I_{\lambda, \theta}$  is the corresponding projective image.



# Conformal modelings : approach 2

## Groupoïd of the conformal viewpoint changes

### Groupoïd :

- it is a category whose morphisms are isomorphisms  
⇒ the set of morphisms of a groupoïd **generalize the notion of group**.

- **generalization of the notion of group action :**

Consider a group  $G$  acting on a set  $X$  by

$$G \times X \longrightarrow X \tag{22}$$

To this action corresponds a groupoïd :

- the objects are the elements of  $X$
- the morphisms from  $x$  to  $y$  are the elements of  $G$  that send  $x$  to  $y$



# Conformal modelings : approach 2

## Groupoid of the conformal viewpoint changes

The groupoid  $\mathcal{PV}$  of the viewpoints and viewpoint changes :

- The objects are  $(H(\lambda, \theta), \varphi_{\lambda, \theta}) \iff$  representing the viewpoints
- The morphisms encode the viewpoint changes and are the compositions of the basic diagrams :
  - 1  $(\sigma_t, T_t)$  where  $\sigma_t = 1 - \frac{1}{2}t\lambda e_{\infty, \theta}$
  - 2  $(\sigma_\gamma, R_\gamma)$  where  $\sigma_\gamma = \exp[-\frac{\gamma}{2}e_1 \wedge e_2]$
  - 3  $(\sigma_\delta, id)$  where  $\sigma_\delta = \exp[-\frac{1}{2}E_\theta \ln \delta]$  and  $E_\theta = e_{\infty, \theta} \wedge e_{0, \theta}$
  - 4  $(\rho_\varphi, id)$  where

$$\rho_\varphi = id \oplus \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi & -\sin \varphi \\ \sin \varphi & \cos \varphi \end{pmatrix} \quad (23)$$

in the canonical basis  $\{e_1, e_2, e_+, e_-\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .



# Conformal modelings : approach 2

## Groupoid of the conformal viewpoint changes

The basic morphisms :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H(\lambda, \theta) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_t} & H(\lambda, \theta) \\ \uparrow \varphi_{\lambda, \theta} & & \uparrow \varphi_{\lambda, \theta} \\ \mathbb{R}^2 & \xrightarrow{T_t} & \mathbb{R}^2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H(\lambda, \theta) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_\delta} & H(\delta\lambda, \theta) \\ \uparrow \varphi_{\lambda, \theta} & & \uparrow \varphi_{\delta\lambda, \theta} \\ \mathbb{R}^2 & \xrightarrow{id} & \mathbb{R}^2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H(\lambda, \theta) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_\gamma} & H(\lambda, \theta) \\ \uparrow \varphi_{\lambda, \theta} & & \uparrow \varphi_{\lambda, \theta} \\ \mathbb{R}^2 & \xrightarrow{R_\gamma} & \mathbb{R}^2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H(\lambda, \theta) & \xrightarrow{\rho_\varphi} & H(\lambda, \theta + \varphi) \\ \uparrow \varphi_{\lambda, \theta} & & \uparrow \varphi_{\lambda, \theta + \varphi} \\ \mathbb{R}^2 & \xrightarrow{id} & \mathbb{R}^2 \end{array}$$



	THE GROUP $C_0(3,1)$	THE GROUPOÏD $\mathcal{PV}$
Domain of $\theta$	$]0, \frac{\pi}{2}[$ $\theta \neq 0$	$S^1$ all values
Modeling of $\theta$	bijection $\theta \mapsto \alpha_\theta$ $\alpha_\theta = \cot \theta$	more natural action of $\theta =$ rotation of $e_\infty$
Modeling of the dilations of ratio $\delta$	transformations of $\mathbb{R}^2$ $x \mapsto \delta x$	zoom change $\lambda e_\infty \mapsto \delta \lambda e_\infty$
Modeling of the viewpoint changes	sub-group of $C(3,1)$	morphisms of groupoïd $\mathcal{PV}$



- Modelings in the projective geometry
- Conformal model of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  in the Minkowski space
- Conformal modelings in computer vision : approach 1
  - ① constant metric (Minkowski)
  - ② embedding the domain of the projective image in  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$
  - ③ an image is defined on a one-parameter horosphere  $H_{\alpha,\theta}$
  - ④ construction of a group of linear conformal transformations  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$  encoding the viewpoint changes
- Conformal modelings in computer vision : approche 2
  - ① generalized conformal model : metric change for every  $\theta$
  - ② an image is defined on a two-parameter horosphere  $H_{\lambda,\theta}$
  - ③ construction of a groupoid whose morphisms encode the viewpoint changes





- Calculations of viewpoint invariants by the action of the group (or the groupoid') of the viewpoint changes on the set of conformal images.
- Practical implementation of algorithms in computer vision for the search of viewpoint invariants.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Covariant detector by the action of  $C_0(3, 1)$  on  $\bar{\mathbb{I}}$ 

It is a functional  $\Psi : \bar{\mathbb{I}} \times C_0(3, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  differentiable according to a parametrization of  $C_0(3, 1)$  and satisfying

- 1 **existence of the canonical element** : for all  $\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta} \in \bar{\mathbb{I}}$ , there exists  $\bar{F}(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}) \in C_0(3, 1)$  such that

$$\nabla\Psi(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}, \bar{F}(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta})) = 0. \quad (24)$$

This element  $\bar{F}(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta})$  of the group is called canonical element of  $\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}$ ,

- 2 **transversality condition** : the Hessian matrix of  $\Psi$  is non-degenerate *i.e*

$$\det[H_\Psi(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}, \bar{F}(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}))] \neq 0, \quad (25)$$

for all  $(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}, \bar{F}(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}))$  satisfying (24),

- 3 **covariance condition** : if  $\nabla\Psi(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}, \bar{F}(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta})) = 0$  then

$$\nabla\Psi(F * \bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}, F \circ \bar{F}(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta})) = 0 \quad (26)$$

for all  $F \in C_0(3, 1)$ .

$\bar{\mathbb{I}}$  is the set of conformal images  $\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}$  and  $*$  denotes the action of  $C_0(3, 1)$  on  $\bar{\mathbb{I}}$ .



It is a functional  $\Phi$  defined on  $\bar{\mathbb{I}}$  by :

$$\Phi(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}) = [\bar{F}(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta})]^{-1} * \bar{I}_{\alpha\theta}. \quad (27)$$

It is a **complete invariant** by the action  $*$  of  $C_0(3, 1)$  on  $\bar{\mathbb{I}}$  :

$$\Phi(\bar{I}_{\alpha\theta_1}) = \Phi(\bar{I}'_{\alpha\theta_2}) \iff \exists F \in C_0(3, 1) \text{ tel que } F * \bar{I}_{\alpha\theta_1} = \bar{I}'_{\alpha\theta_2}. \quad (28)$$